

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TRIEST 00249 221929Z
ACTION EUR-12

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TO AMEMBASSY ROME
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UNCLAS TRIESTE 0249

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINT, EAID, IT
SUBJ: PRESS REPORT OF U.S. VISIT BY FRIULI OFFICIALS

REF: TRIESTE 0216, TRIESTE 0218, STATE 294445

1. SUMMARY: LEAD ARTICLE ON LOCAL (UDINE) PAGE OF MESSAGGERO VENETO, DEC 22, ENTITLED QTE SOLIDARITY FROM THE U.S.: NEW LAW FOR THE FRIULI? UNQTE DESCRIBES OFFICIALS' VISIT TO THE U.S. AND CANADA (SEE REFTELS) AND MENTIONS POSSIBLE ADDITIONAL U.S. ASSISTANCE.

2. MAJOR COVERAGE IS GIVEN TO THE GROUP'S MEETING WITH REPRESENTATIVE BIAGGI WHO REPORTEDLY ACCEPTED AN INVITATION TO VISIT THE FRIULI QTE EXPRESSING THE INTENTION TO COME ... WITH A COMMISSION OF ITALO-AMERICAN CONGRESSMEN UNQTE. THE SCOPE OF THE VISIT ACCORDING TO THE ARTICLE WILL BE TO REVIEW THE POST EARTHQUAKE SITUATION TO QTE DEVELOP AND PRESENT TO THE AMERICAN CONGRESS A NEW LAW TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL ASSISTANCE TO THE FRIULI AND TO SOLICIT THE SUPPORT UNQTE OF PRESIDENT-ELECT CARTER (EVIDENTLY FOR NEW LEGISLATION). NO DATES WERE GIVEN FOR THE PROPOSED VISIT.

3. THE ARTICLE GOES ON TO STATE THAT THE GROUP MET WITH N.Y. MAYOR BIM
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(SIC) WHO EXPRESSED HIS SUPPORT FOR TWINNING U.S. AND EARTHQUAKE STRICKEN FRIULI CITIES. IS PROGRAM WILL BE COORDINATED WITH THE ITALIAN EMBASSY. THE GROUP ALSO MET WITH PIERI VISSAT - PRESIDENT OF THE "FAMEE FURLANE" OF N.Y., JUDGE PAGNACCO, THE SECRETARY OF THE QTE UNIONE SINDACALE ARTIGIANA UNQTE - MALIASANO, AND REACHED AGREEMENT

WITH THE ITALIAN CLUB OF "WEST CENTER" FOR DISTRIBUTION OF FUNDS THE LATTER HAD COLLECTED. FINALLY, THE FRIULANI MET WITH FATHER JOSEPH COGO AND SOCIOLOGIST JOHN GARRA WHO WILL ORGANIZE, WITH "FAMEE FURLANE" OF N.Y., A NEW FUND RAISING CAMPAIGN.

4. ARTICLE MENTIONS THAT GROUP VISITED WASHINGTON BUT PROVIDED NO DETAILS OF THE VISIT. PATTERSON.

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Message Attributes

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